



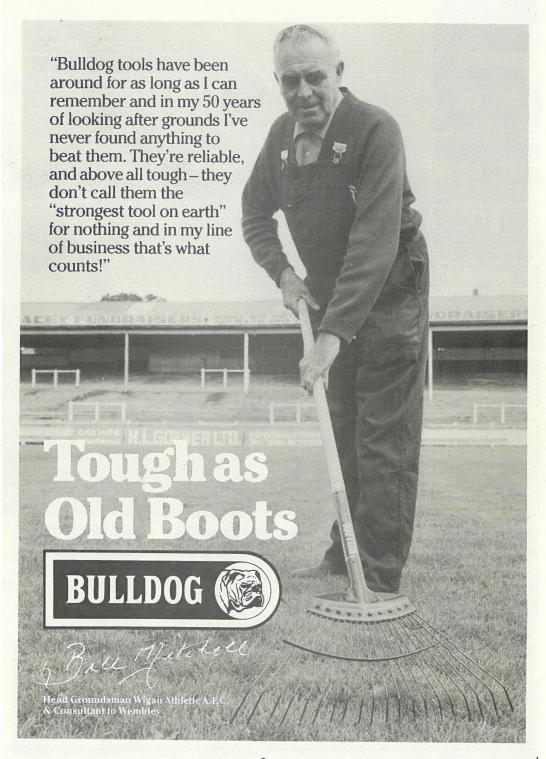
SCENE

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC 40p

Saturday, 18th December, 1982 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m. FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- OXFORD UNITED

Today's match is sponsored by The William Gaskell Group



LARRY



LLOYD

HELLO again and welcome back to Springfield Park for our first ever game against Oxford United. Now that everything is back to normal behind the scenes here at the Latics, we are now just concentrating on climbing up the League table and today's game gives us the opportunity to consolidate our recent good run. I was extremely pleased that our recent clash with Sheffield United, in which we got our revenge for last year's disappointments, was televised on Granada T.V., and the comments from the resident "experts" about the high standard of play in the game was gratifying to hear. Elton Welsby has certainly made up for his unfortunate comments of the past and is now always a welcome guest at the Club.

That game saw the final appearance of Jim Steel, whose loan period from Oldham has now expired. Jim is a talented and likeable lad, but his departure merely highlights the harsh realities of modern football. Oldham had put a price on his

head which was way beyond our means. At the moment, I, along with the Directors, have got to face up to a period of strict financial controls which mean that we have to utilise our limited playing staff to the full. Fortunately, each and everyone of the lads has responded well to the demands that have been made of them, and the patience of you, the supporters, has been a tremendous help. I would, however, add my voice to that of our Commercial Department and ask you to support us by buying lottery tickets, souvenirs and our new product, Christmas Hampers for 1983. It may seem strange for a Managers column to contain such a plea for support, but it is only when the finances of the club improve that we can look at moving through the Divisions. So think of that when someone asks you to buy a lottery ticket.

And as this is our last match before Christmas, I would like to wish each and every one of you a happy Christmas and a good New Year. 1982 has been a good year for the Latics, but I know it has not been that good for many people in Wigan and let us all hope that 1983 sees a prosperous and successful club supported by prosperous and successful fans. Good luck to us all.

Som Son S

Larry Lloyd.

Chairman Mr. F. Pye

WIGAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED

Directors: Messrs. R. Charlton, C.B.E. J.A. Eckersley R. Kay, F.C.A. A. Muir F. Summers Registered Office: Springfield Park Wigan. Telephone: Wigan 44433 President: Mr. A.O. Horrocks Vice-Presidents: Mr. J.H. Farrimond Mr. A. Fitch, M.P. Company Secretary Mr. C.T. Burke Player Manager Mr. L.V. Lloyd Commercial Manager Mr. D.J. Roberts Company Accountant Mr. D. Welsby Hon, Med. Officers: Dr. S.K. Ahuja Dr. M. Reid Hon. Club Chaplain Rev. D. Hall

THE DISTON

by Harold Ashurst

BRADFORD City, still sore after the departure of Roy McFarland to Derby County, have finally got a new manager.

He is Leeds and former England defender Trevor Cherry who ended a few days of deliberation by agreeing to become the new Player Boss at Valley Parade.

Leeds and Bradford agreed a £10,000 transfer fee and Cherry was expected to make his debut in today's derby clash with Sheffield United.

The marriage of Bristol Rovers and former Southampton and England star Mike Channon appears to be turning sour.

Channon, who had an unsuccessful spell at Newcastle earlier in the season alongside Kevin Keegan, joined the Eastville club in October, but has been unable to command a regular First team place.

The best Channon has been getting is

the substitute's shirt, but even that was taken from him for the Cup game against Plymouth last week and given to Graham Withey.

How long will Channon stay at Bristol is now the question on everyone's lips.

The shortcomings in the loan system have never been more illustrated than at present with the FA Cup ties upon us.

Players are being signed on loan only to be told by the loaning clubs not to play in the FA Cup because they don't want them to be cup tied,

It happened to Latics with Jim Steel against Telford and it happened to Doncaster last week when Bradford City told full back Gary Watson he couldn't play for Billy Bremner's side in case he was needed later in the season.

What's the point in having a player and having to pay his wages if he can't play in important games.

Scrap the loan system is what I say.

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THIRD DIVISION RESULTS GRID

Away	BOURNEMOUTH	BRADFORD C.	BRENTFORD	RISTOL R.	CARDIFF C.	CHESTERFIELD	DONCASTER	EXETER	GILLINGHAM	HUDDERSFIELD	LINCOLN C.	MILLWALL	NEWPORT	ORIENT	OXFORD	PLYMOUTH	PORTSMOUTH	PRESTON NE	READING	SHEFFIELD U.	SOUTHEND	WALSALL	WIGAN	WREXHAM
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MILLWALL	2-0	1-1			0-4					3-0					2-1				1-1	-		2-2	_	1-1
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WREXHAM	1-0							1-2	1-0	1-1	0-1		1-0	1-0	1-1						3-2			

COMING UP NEXT

Monday, 27th December, 1982.

WREXHAM -v- WIGAN ATHLETIC

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Wednesday, 29th December, 1982.

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- WALSALL

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Saturday, 1st January, 1983.

PRESTON N.E. -v- WIGAN ATHLETIC

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE*

Monday, 3rd January 1983.

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- HUDDERSFIELD T.

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

LATICS AWAY A.A. ROUTE TO WREXHAM

WIGAN

Leave by M6 South to Junction 20

Branch left (signs North Wales) to join M56 to Junction 15

Branch left to join M531 and at end follow signs Chester along A56 to Junction

with A41 where turn left (signposted Whitchurch)

Shortly forward signs Wrexham A55

Chester (Bypass) — Junction with A483 Branch left A483 to later join

Wrexham (Bypass) — Junction with A541

Branch left then turn left A541 for

WREXHAM F.C. (on left)

Total Mileage: 52 miles.



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Great interest surrounded booking of goalkeeper Peter Shilton a fortnight ago for illegal marking of the pitch. His crime was not a serious one and, remembering that a player has to accrue 20 penalty points before he is suspended, Shilton has to commit the offence 19 more times before he is forced to miss a match. For your information, and for its first known publication, I list below official F.A. scale of penalty points for the various infringements of the laws of the game. SCHEDULE OF PENALTY

SCHEDULE OF PENALTY
POINTS

Caution Offences

Wasting time

i) UNGENTLEMANLY CONDUCT

In addition to penalising the infringement, the Referee may decide that the following offences, in certain situations, also constitute ungentlemanly conduct for which a caution can be issued. In such cases the following scale will apply:

1

2

3

4

LAW 1
Illegal marking of the pitch
LAW 12
Intentional handling of the
ball
Intentional obstruction
Intentional tripping

4	Shirt Pulling etc.	
	Goalkeeper w	
2	(Section 5b)	
	Player using sho	
	own team collea	
	him in heading th	
to obstruct 2	Moving arms abo	
	opponent Goalkeeper lying	
2	waste time	
olay 2	Dangerous or fou	
4	Foul tackle	
	LAW 13	
in 10 yards	Encroachment w	
3	of the ball	
nt of player	Gesticulating in	
2	taking kick	
defender 7	LAW 14	
detender 2	Encroachment by	
n attacker 2 ker 2	Encroachment by Gesticulating by	
KCI 2	LAW 15	
nt of	Gesticulating in f	
2	thrower	
(not listed	Any other offen	
	above) deemed by	
	be ungentlemanly	
NT 4	SHOWING DISS	11)
MC OF THE	PERSISTENT IN	111)
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_		iv)
OF PLAY		141

WITHOUT THE REFEREE'S

So now you know, Colin Burke.

PERMISSION



CHOOSE YOUR SPORT THEN CHOOSE DUNLOP

Professional sportsmen such as Trevor Brooking, Bobby Charlton, Graeme Souness and the Wigan Athletic Squad choose Dunlop Footwear. Why don't you put yourself in their shoes?



FUMMERFIAL

Today's game will be my last in the capacity as Commercial Manager of Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Although I am relinquishing this post, I shall not be leaving the Commercial Department.

After Christmas the club is setting up a new section in the Commercial Department which will be known as Wigan Athletic Promotions, and I shall be responsible for a new venture which we are undertaking within this section, namely the Wigan Athletic Christmas Hamper Club.

I am looking for agents to promote the hampers, and the club is offering a

good incentive scheme to interested agents.

The commission rates are as follows:-

Up to 10 hampers sold — 10%

Up to 20 hampers sold 15%

Over 20 hampers sold — 20%

We offer a range of hampers from £44.00 to £78.76, payable on a weekly instalment basis of between £1. and £1.79.

Anybody wishing to become an agent should contact me at the Commercial Office or 'phone Wigan 43067.

Ken Wood, Commercial Manager.





PUZZZZZ



ON THE BALL No. 13

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

--- Seacole; Division; Top scorer in 1982 World Cup; Armstrong, for instance.

CLUB CLUE No. 13

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side: Solve this cryptic clue to identify a famous foreign club:

The way to train mainly in East Germany?

MIXED DOUBLES No. 13

Re-order the letters in each of the words **CLAY and NOTES** to find the names of two men called John.

QUICK QUIZ No. 13

- What player last scored in successive years' FA Cup finals?
- 2. How many fixed flags must be around the pitch?
- 3. The fourteen contenders for the BBC's 1982 Goal of the Season included five from which club?
- 4. Which of the three R's (Reading, Rochdale, Rotherham) have appeared in the League Cup final?
- 5. Who was "Slim Jim"?

Answers on page 12.

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SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 13 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

- Centre-forward who holds Southhampton's seasonal scoring record—altogether he hit around 150 in 300 games, the last few for Bournemouth (5,6)
- & 7. Dstinguished lineage for the likes of Sheffield United, Stoke and Sunderland (3,7)
- A shaft of sunshine from Stewart? (3)
- Midfielder who made his first appearance for Newcastle in 1979 (7)
- Defender (who shares a name with a film and TV star) who served Mansfield 1970-82 (5.6)

DOWN

- Goalkeeper who got in 500 games for Bournemouth (first and last), Oldham, Ipswich and Portsmouth (4)
- 2. Godfrev's first name (5)
- Brothers who were at Wembley with Manchester United when they last won the FA Cup (9)
- 4. Take the number from 2 down to find 12 across (3)
- World-famous star whose autobiography was called My Life and The Beautiful Game (4)
- 9. Midfielder who notched his 100th League game for Shrewsbury last season (5)
- 11. Waldron or Walsh (4)
- In 1976/77 Carlisle's Bobby --- was loaned to Northampton and Workington ... and all three clubs were relegated! (4)
- Former Southampton and Walsall defender who sounds as if he could cook (3)



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BY GEOFF KEMP

ASPULL continued their lone bid to bring the Lancashire Football Association Amateur Shield to this area with a tremendous win against Ramsbottom United.

All the other local teams fell by the wayside in earlier stages of the competition, but Aspull show no signs of joining their Amateur League companions after their Third Round victory over the Bolton Combination team. Aspull won 5-1, and in doing so claimed a place in the last sixteen of the competition.

The scoring began after eight minutes with a headed goal from Harrison after a cross by O'Neil. O'Neil was also instrumental in the second goal when he was brought down in the penalty area after a good run from the half-way line. Bailey duly scored from the spot.

In the second half Harrison claimed his second goal after a run down the wing by Hindley. Ramsbottom scored in the 66th minute but it proved to be their only consolation since within three minutes Harrison had scored Aspull's fourth and completed his personal hat-trick. With five

minutes to go Harrison popped up again to return the earlier favour by putting Hindley to score the final goal.

Meanwhile, the team blocking Aspull's way at the top of the Wigan Amateur League, Bethel FC, suffered their first defeat of the season when they went down 1-0 at home to Ince PC. The goal came from McCarrick in only the second minute of the match and Ince then had to survive the other 88 minutes to take the points.

The Lancashire FA Under-Eighteens Inter-League squad was mentioned a fortnight ago because of the inclusion of Latics schoolboy star Mark Shaw, but here is the full squad who will compete in the Inter-League contest: E. Tyrer, M. Sephton, D. Robinson, D. Aspinall, M. Shaw (all Birchley); S. O'Keefe (Bispham); A. Byetheway, S. Bradshaw (Bridgewater); P. Bowie, M. Dalton (Orrell Celtic); G. Darbyshire, C. Billington, A. Gray (Poolstock); A. Archer, T. Mason (Standish); P. Aspinall (St. Cuthberts); M. Campbell, A. Forster, S. Marrow (St. Judes); A. Goodlad (St. Thomas).

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MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

Please send all your messages for the "Personal Column" to Helen Turner, Commercial Department, Wigan Athletic A.F.C., Springfield Park, Wigan, or telephone Wigan 43067.

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE PAGE SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 13 — Across: 6. Derek Reeves 8. & 7. red stripes; 10. Ray; 12. Wharton; 15. Barry Foster. Down: 1. Best; 2. Kevin; 3. Greenoff (1977); 4. Ke(vi)n; 5. Pele; 9. Cross; 11. Alan; 13. Owen; 14. Fry. ONTHE BALL No. 13. Jason; First

Rossi; David. CLUB CLUE No. 13: Lokomotiv (Leipzig). MIXED DOUBLES No. 13 — Lacy, Stone. OUICK QUIZ No. 13: 1. Bobby Smith (1961-62); 2. Four; 3. Spurs; 4. Rochdale and Rotherham; 5. Jim Baxter.

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Jim Steel scores his second and Latics third goal against Sheffield United. Photograph by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.

What the papers say...

The Sunday People WIGAN WONDERS

Wigan Athletic 3 Sheffield United 2.

Wigan team boss Larry Lloyd was given more ammunition for his claim that the players are giving him everything.

Not least Steel, the on-loan striker who scored two goals on his 23rd

birthday

Lloyd had told the fans before the game: "My future lies in the hands of

others''

Afterwards he said: "The answer is the team's performance, and in our last four League games we have had three wins and a draw".

He added that he was "looking for a chance not a showdown" this week when Chairman Freddie Pye returns

from holiday.

Wigan's first goal came from a left wing corner. As Methven headed the ball in from close range, Conroy parried the effort but Lowe was there to apply the finishing touch. McMahon wasn't far off with another effort, then a four-man move ended with Butler crossing the ball and Steel leaving Conroy helpless from close range.

And when Conroy and Charles got into a tangle straight from the restart, Steel was there to snap up the chance. United rarely looked like cracking the Wigan defence until they were given a penalty.

Even when Morris scored it didn't entirely reverse the flow of play. Twice Methven was denied goals as Conroy made superb saves.

With time running out, the Blades threw much more into attack and they had their second goal when Trusson was given time and space to steer his header home.

FORM REPORT

Tunks 7 - McMahon 8 - Methven 7 -Walsh 6 - Cribley 7 - Butler 7 -Langely 7 - Shaw 6 - Weston 6 -Lowe 6 - Steel 7.

The News of the World LLOYD'S LOAN STAR STEEL'S MAGIC TOUCH

Wigan's talented teenagers did troubled player boss Larry Lloyd proud, while on-loan striker Jim Steel celebrated his 23rd birthday with two goals.

The more experienced Sheffield

United were rarely in the picture and only a late revival made the scoreline respectable.

Lloyd, whose future at Springfield Park is in doubt following a letter in midweek from the board, commented: "I was very pleased with the kids, although we almost let them in at the end, but that was down to lack of experience".

"Everyone is pulling out the stops for me. Since all this business about my future cropped up we have won three and drawn one. That's not a bad way to answer the critics, I will see Chairman Freddie Pye next week

to sort everything out"

United, with Everton midfielder Trevor Ross making his debut in exchange for Terry Curran, were disjointed and lacking in pace as the Wigan youngsters gave them the runaround.

BRILLIANT

And the result could have been worse but for goalkeeper Steve Conroy making two brilliant reflex saves in the second half.

Eighteen-year-old David Lowe headed in the first goal after 15 minutes and Jim Steel—whose loan period from Oldham expired after the match—cracked in Wigan's second after Lowe had pulled the ball back

from the by-line.

A minute after the break Steel pushed in Wigan's third after a terrible mix-up in the Sheffield defence, but, against the run of play. United's best player, Colin Morris, pulled one back from the penalty spot after he had been brought down by Walsh.

A goal out of the blue, a powerful header from Mike Trusson with 11 minutes of the game left, gave Sheffield heart but Wigan, with Lowe and Kevin Langley outstanding, held firm.

The Sunday Mirror Wigan Kids of

Wigan youngsters delivered the goods again for "under-pressure" manager Larry Lloyd. His likely lads stunned Gillingham 2-0 last week and it was Sheffield United's turn to feel the force of their non-stop running yesterday.

Wigan took the lead after 15 minutes when 18-year-old David Lowe scooped a parried Colin Methven header into the net.

But the hero was birthday boy Jim Steel, on loan from Oldham, who celebrated in style with his first two goals for the club.

He first came after 27 minutes when he was well-placed at the near post to slam home. United were guilty of an amazing mix-up after the break. 'Keeper Steve Conroy and full back Steve Charles tangled on the edge of the box and Steel pounced to fire into an empty net.

This brought Sheffield into their first serious attacks of the game and they pulled one back in the 54th minute when winger Colin Morris scored from a penalty after he was brought down by Steve Walsh.

Mike Trusson made it 3-2 in the dying minutes when he headed in a Martin Henderson free kick.

The Daily Mirror
Superkids state
case for Larry

Wigan player-manager Larry Lloyd faces a "clean-the-air" meeting with chairman Freddie Pye today but he stated his case on Saturday with a 3-2 victory over Sheffield United.

No second-rate boss with seven regulars injured could still field a side including five teenagers well organised and motivated enough to dominate an expensive outfit like United.

The Wigan line-up cost £40,000 all-in and as United manager lan Porterfield said: "Wigan were enthusiastic and worked ever so hard".

On-loan Jim Steel, with a birthday double, and young David Lowe had put the home side firmly in command before tiredness in the team's youthful ranks let the visitors salvage some pride with a Colin Morris penalty and a Mike Trusson header.

The effectiveness of his side's show, inspired by old hand Colin Methven, wasn't lost on LLoyd. "My only answer to criticism is the team's performance", he said, "and that's three wins and a drawin our last four

League games."

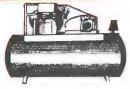
"But really the situation between myself and the chairman should never have got out of hand as it has. I hope we can sort things out because the present atmosphere isn't right. It was nice to see the players come through and work for me exactly as I asked — and players don't respond like that to a bad manager".

What you say...

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OXFORD



OXFORD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB — SEASON 1982-83

Back Row: (I to r): Gary Briggs, Roy Burton, David Fogg, John Butcher, David Grant. Middle Row: Ken Fis Thomas, Mick Vinter, Tim Smithers, Malcolm Shotton, Trevor Hebberd, Steve Biggins, Ray Graydon (Coach). Brock, David Linney, Mark Jones, Jim Smith (Manager), Ray Train, Gary Barnett, Peter Foley. Photo by Ge

THE rise of Oxford United from the obscurity of Southern League football to the Second Division of the Football League gave them a record for the fastest rise from non-League soccer to Division II. Never before had a club risen, through three divisions of the League within seven years of its election. This record has now been beaten by Hereford United.

When Accrington Stanley folded in 1962, Oxford were almost an automatic choice to fill the vacancy in Division IV. When most other clubs might justifiably have felt their ambitions had been realised, Oxford United looked upon this as only the first step in their development. The careful planning continued and Manager Arthur Turner had the distinction of leading Oxford into the sixth round of the F.A. Cup in 1964 — the first of only three Fourth

Division clubs ever to get that far.

One year later, Oxford crept into the Fourth Division's last promotion place, with their highest ever points total (61) and most League goals (87). After two years establishing themselves in the Third Division they won the Championship in their third season, the team captain being Ron Atkinson, now Manager of Manchester United.

The Second Division was a hard struggle but Ron Saunders was brought in as Team Manager with a dozen matches left and they finished one place above the relegation zone. Saunders departed for Norwich City immediately after this narrow escape and Gerry Summers took over as Team Manager in the summer of 1969.

Summers was dismissed in October 1975 and was replaced by Mick Brown, Summers' assistant for the last six

years. The club's this time was so ba Brown could do consecutive seas Oxford United we first time in their Lend of the season

After ten years
Brown left for W.B.
of Assistant M.
Atkinson's assist:
United) in July 197
Bill Asprey who h
for fourteen month

United struggle leadership and folloresults during the 1980/81 season, v a precarious 20th I he was dismissed

The next persor chair was former

in town today... in to JIGAN ATHLE UNITED



sh (Trainer), Andy Front Row: Kevin orge Reszeter.

League position by d that there was little and after eight ons in Division II re relegated for the eague history at the (1975/76). "at the Club, Mick

A. to take up the post anager (now Ron ant at Manchester 9. His successor was ad been Club Coach ıs.

d under Asprey's

wing a string of poor e first half of the vith the team lying in position in the table, in December 1980. in the Manager's Huddersfield Town. and Bolton Wanderers boss lan Greaves. The team prospered under his managership, managed to avoid relegation and this season had good runs in both Cup competitions and were well placed in the League when Greaves decided to leave the club in favour of Wolverhampton Wanderers.

In March 1982 former Birmingham City boss Jim Smith was brought in to fill the vacant Manager's position at the club. Promotion from Division III looked a distinct possibility with only a handful of matches left of the 1981/82 campaign but losing the last four games, three of which were away from home, confined Oxford United to another season in Division III.

The team's shirts bear the letters bpcc which stands for British Printing and Communications Corporation the Company of the Chairman Mr.

Robert Maxwell.

GARY BRIGGS — Born Leeds, 21.6.59. Position — Central Defender. Has been a first team regular since signing from Middlesbrough in July 1978 and has made nearly 200 League appearances. Voted Player of the Year

at the end of last season.

KEVIN BROCK — Born Oxfordshire, 9.9.62. Position - Midfield. Former England Schoolboy International. A fine example of the club's youth policy, Kevin turned down a £150,000 move to Brighton four months after signing professional on 10th September 1979, the day after his 17th birthday. After a spell in the Reserves at the beginning of last season Kevin fought his way back into the First team, making 28 appearances and scoring 5 goals.

JOHN BUTCHER — Born Newcastle, 27.5.56. Position — Goalkeeper. John was signed on a free transfer from Blackburn Rovers during the summer. He spent nine seasons at Ewood Park making over 100 appearances.

DAVID FOGG — Born Liverpool, 28.5.51. Position — Full Back. Signed on a free transfer from Wrexham prior to 1976/77 season, David has played regularly in the first team ever since and has made 254 League appearances. PETER FOLEY - Born Bicester.

10.9.56. Position — Forward. Signed

professional in 1974 after serving an apprenticeship with the club. Former Eire Youth and Under 21 International. Peter has made 263 League appearances and 66 goals.

TREVOR HEBBERD — Born 19.6.58. Position Winchester. Striker. Transferred to the club from Southampton in March 1982 and has since made 15 appearances for United,

scoring twice.

DAVIĎ LINNEY — Born Birmingham, 5.9.61. Position — Defender/Midfield. David was given a free transfer by Birmingham City this summer but was immediately snapped up by Manager Smith. Had made just the one league

appearance for the Blues.

MALCOLM SHOTTON - Born Newcastle, 16.2.57. Position — Central Defender. Signed for £15,000 from Nuneaton Borough during the 1980 close season. Was with Leicester City for 31/2 years as a youngster and also played for Atherstone before joining Nuneaton. Malcolm scored 4 goals in 40 appearances last season and his team-mates elected him Player's Player of the Year for the second year running for his performances in the heart of the United defence.

TIM SMITHERS - Born Ramsgate, 22.1.56. Position — Full Back/Midfield. Another £15,000 signing from Nuneaton during the summer of 1980, where he spent four season, playing on the left-wing for the first three years. Only missed 2 League games last

season.

RAY TRAIN — Born Nuneaton, 10.2.51. Position - Midfield. Ray was purchased from Watford in March 1982 for the sum of £10,000 to give stability and experience to United's midfield. Before joining Watford he was with Walsall, Carlisle United, Sunderland and Bolton Wanderers. Ray made 15 appearances last season and is Club Captain.

MICK VINTER — Born Boston, Lines., 23.5.54. Position - Forward. Mick joined us from Wrexham in July 1982 in a £25,000 deal. Made 25 League & Cup appearances for Wrexham last season scoring 11 goals and he previously

played for Notts County.

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SPRING 1983 - APRIL 3rd - MAY 27th, 1983 - From £62.00 plus V.A.T. EARLY SUMMER BREAKS 1983 - MAY 29th - JULY 15th ENTERTAINMENTS from £79.00 plus V.A.T. AUTUMN 1983 - SEPTEMBER 11th - OCTOBER 28th - From £58.75 plus V.A.T.

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JUNIOR LATICS COACHING SPECIAL

HEY! What about this for great news. We are holding the first of a series of Junior Latics Coaching Schools on Thursday, 30th December on the Astro Turf of the all-weather pitch. There will be two sessions for you to choose from, each lasting three hours, starting at 9 in the morning or 1 in the afternoon.

Putting you through your paces will be two of the best coaches in Greater Manchester, Peter Jackson and Billy Addison, and so that you will all benefit from the coaching, places will be limited to just 60. Yes, it's on a first come, first served basis.

The cost is £1 per head. Where else could you get the best coaching available for that

sort of money?

That's not all. This is just the first in a series of coaching s

That's not all. This is just the first in a series of coaching schemes ending in a fantastic two-week course in the summer holidays. But more about that later.

DISCO PARTY

What did I say! You've got to admit it, I did say it would be a great night didn't I. But even I was surprised at the turn-out on such a bad night. At six o'clock I didn't honestly think anyone would turn up because of the fog and ice, and when I heard about the 200 car pile-up on the M61 I didn't think we'd have a Disco either considering that the equipment, D.J.'s, and the whole lot had to come from Manchester. But by 7.45 p.m. the place was throbbing to the sounds of Piccadilly's D.J. Mike Shaft, the temperature was up in the 90's and it was great.

Many thanks once again to Piccadilly's Steve Murphy, Mike Shaft and the rest of the boys, all the players and of course, Larry Lloyd who once again got the biggest cheer of the night.

MASCOT

Today's match-day mascot is David Heap. David attends St. Thomas More School and his hobbies are football, rugby and fishing

are football, rugby and fishing.

He plays for Junior Latics Under 12's football team and played for Wigan Schools R.L. team at Wembley Stadium in May.

David's favourite players are Eamon O'Keefe and Kevin Langley.

Have a nice day today David.

John Fillingham,
Chairman.





-Half Time Gossip.

Mixed fortunes for ex-Latics players in last week's Fourth Division clash between Stockport County and Crewe Alexandra. Micky Quinn made the headlines with the first hat-trick scored at Edgeley Park for two years, but Crewe's Clive Evans was substituted after seventy minutes. Micky's performance impressed watching Bolton manager John McGovern.

* * * Young apprentice Andy Phillips has reason to be grateful to manager Larry Lloyd's demanding ways. Confined to bed with what his own doctor diagnosed as something not too serious, the manager called for a second opinion from Club Doctor Maurice Reid, who swiftly diagnosed the start of pneumonia, a diagnosis confirmed by hospital tests. Doctor Reid's prompt action meant that the illness was caught at an early stage and young Mr. Phillips will be back training on Monday.

The Telford United Directors were so pleased with the hospitality extended to themselves and their players at Springfield Park that, at the replay at Bucks Head Ground they presented the Wigan Directors with a glass tankard commemorating the match. Fortunately it did not have the score engraved on it, but it is estimated that it will be some weeks until Secretary Colin Burke will have the heart to find it a place in the Latics Board Room.

* * *

The Junior Latics Under-13 Football Team continues to show us all how it is done. They have now played fourteen games and won every one.

* * *

Mark Wignall, who has now left the Latics, has reportedly signed for Barrow, although a number of non-league sides, including Leyland, showed interest.

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WIGAN CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME FAIR

Sunday, 19th December, at Wigan Scout Centre, Greenough Street, Wigan. From 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. The first 100 entrants will receive a free programme bundle, and every person entering will have the chance to win a portable Black & White T.V. set in a free to enter competition.

Some 50,000 programmes will be on sale, featuring Latics home and aways back to the 1940's, as well as many home and aways since 1978-79 season.

Anybody wishing to make a few extra pounds for Christmas is welcome to bring along their unwanted programme to sell them to any of the nine stall-holders. Amongst the programmes on sale will be Hartlepool Youth vs. Latics Youth in this season's F.A. Youth Cup, and Latics away match programme vs Telford, plus the England vs Luxembourg International issue.

Admission is by programme available at the door at 20p. each. However "Junior Latics" members will be admitted free of charge if they produce their membership cards.

Fifty Latics away programmes for sale. Offers to 64 Cambridge Street, Wigan.

£20 paid for Wigan Borough programmes. 'Phone Ron Hunt on Wigan 36981.

Happy Birthday to Neil Chisnall. Twelve yrs. old on Christmas Eve. From Dad, Mum and Ian, 362 Church Road, Haydock.

Belated Birthday Wishes for the 10th December to Wayne Aspinall. With very best wishes from Mum, Dad, Warren and Wendy.

Congratulations to Lynne Owen and Damian Walker who were married today. Enjoy the "Match". May all your troubles be "little ones" from freinds at Heinz.

Congratulations from everybody at Springfield Park to Lynne Owen and Damian Walker (now Mr. & Mrs. Walker) who were married this morning and are here at the game today. That's what we call true support.

Happy 17th Birthday Rebecca from Aunty Margaret, Uncle Ian, Thomas and Kathryn.

Happy Christmas Ian and Thomas, with love from Margaret and Kathryn.

Congratulations on your 21st Birthday, Michael Gaskell, from Mum, Dad, Andrew and Angela and Denise, at 12 Newark Street, Wigan.

Happy 17th Birthday to Gary Taylor for the 14th December from everybody at Springfield Park.

Congratulations to Supporters Club Treasurer David Worswick and Susan Malley on your forthcoming engagement from all your friends at the Club.

DON'T FORGET This is a free service for Latics supporters. All messages should be handed in, or 'phoned through to the Club by the Monday morning before Saturday, and the Friday morning before midweek games. Please make your messages as short as possible.

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LATE NIGHT FRIDAY

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSORS

Today's match has been kindly sponsored by The William Gaskell Group, of Crawford Village, Upholland, Skelmersdale. The Group are one of the largest private hauliers in the Wigan area, and their Managing Director, Mr. Brian Heathcote, is one of our keenest supporters, but we hear rumours that his second team is Liverpool.

TODAY'S BALL SPONSORS

WIGAN ATHLETIC A.F.C. HAMPER PROMOTIONS

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See the Commercial Column in this programme for further details.

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WARRINGTON ROAD - WIGAN - LANCS.



Above David Lowe calmly celebrates his first ever home goal after opening the scoring against Sheffield United, but below, he can't control his joy as Jim Steel celebrates the third goal. Photographs by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.





John Butler's header against Sheffield United is just the wrong side of the post. Photograph by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.

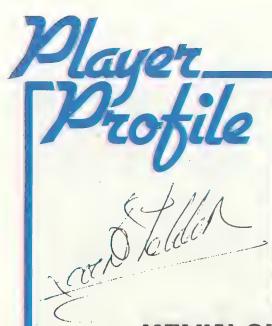


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KEVIN SHELDON

LIFE was looking very good for Kevin Sheldon in November, 1976. Having finally made it to Stoke City's first team for the last three games of the previous season, he had established himself as a regular and had played in every first team fixture of the 1976/77 season. And then, the team travelled to Elland Road to play Leeds United. By the end of ninety minutes, Stoke were lower down the First Division table and Kevin Sheldon was in a Leeds hospital with a double fracture of the right leg. "It was a real mess, twisted up and I thought that was the end of football for me", he recalls, the memory of it is still painful. After an operation by a top specialist in Leeds, he began the longest fight to recover - and long it certainly was. He was in plaster for 26 weeks, then wore a calliper for another eight, spent another four on crutches and, just for good measure finished off with two sticks. But such was his determination to recover and play again that by the following season he was back playing for the reserves. He did hurt his same leg soon after, but the manager insisted that it was just the screw, left in after the operation, causing him trouble. But when "the trouble" didn't go away after playing for four months he went back to Leeds to see the specialist, who proceeded to inform him

that, for all that time he had been playing with a crack in his leg. Back to the operating table he went and once again, he had to start on the road to recovery. He eventually reached fitness again and played a couple of times for Stoke's first team. But by this time, a replacement had been found and when his contract was up in 1981, Wigan Athletic won the race to sign him.

Had things worked out differently, Kevin would never have been at Stoke in the first place. Playing for Staffordshire Schoolboys at the end of his last year at school, he was spotted by a scout from Sheffield Wednesday and was offered an apprenticeship. His team manager, however, decided that if he was good enough for Sheffield Wednesday, he was good enough for Stoke City and a trial was quickly arranged and the young lad, sixteen years old and five foot tall ("I've grown five inches since then") began his apprenticeship at the Victoria Ground.

Now settled in Wigan with his wife Marion and young daughter Elizabeth, the chirpy lad from Leed is philosophical about his bad luck at Stoke and his attitude to it epitomises his courage. "If I'd gone to Sheffield Wednesday", he remarks, "I'd probably have got knocked over by a bus on the way to training".



Wednesday, 8th December, 1982 Port Vale 3 Wigan Athletic 0

ON paper, the Latics Reserve side should have been able to cope with Port Vale Reserves, but unfortunately somebody, namely Vale's manager John McGrath, changed the writing on the paper. Wigan turned up with six noncontract players, three apprentices, a trialist goalkeeper and a recuperating Graham Barrow to be met by Port Vales first team. With no first team fixture on the following Saturday, John McGrath fielded his best men, with predictable results. Larry Lloyd was not too worried, however, and commented after the match. "The lads were playing a Fourth Division side and equipped themselves well". Graham Barrow, scheduled to play for just half a game, was put at the centre of the defence next to Steve Walsh and had a fine game, full of all the battling endeavour which has made him such a fine first team player. Manager Larry Lloyd reckons he could end up as a central defender in the distant future when "his legs start to go". And of the rest of the squad he observed, "They showed all the determination and effort that I expect from Latics players, and the experience they got tonight can only do them good". And perhaps the last word on the game can be left to Vale manager, big John McGrath. "My lads", he said, "have got out of the habit of scoring and of winning so I used tonight to boost their confidence, as well as to try things out that we'd practised in training. The Wigan lads provided spirited opposition and I'm sure Larry will be happy THE TEAM with them".

Pengelly Martindale Walsh Hatton Barrow Schofield Shaw Aspinall Williams Wilson Lowe

Sub: Grant (for Wilson after 70 minutes)

FORTHCOMING CENTRAL LEAGUE ACTION

December 21st MIDDLESBROUGH (Away) January 12th PRESTON NORTH END

(Away)

January 18th NOTTS, COUNTY (Away) January 2nd MANCHESTER CITY

(Home)

26



GOOD afternoon everyone. The committee and staff of the Supporters' Club would like to welcome the officials, players and supporters of Oxford United to Springfield Park. We hope you all had a pleasant journey up to Wigan today.

INSURANCE FOR SUPPORTERS

The Federation of Football Supporters Clubs are trying to encourage clubs to join the insurance scheme. We at the Supporters' Club are looking at the possibility very closely. Here is a brief list of the benefits:

Injuries at Matches

Entering or leaving the ground travelling to and from a game. If injuries result in time off work the policy pays loss of earnings.

The fans MUST be a member of a recognised Suporters' Club which has taken out special cover. (Spectators Guaranteed).

Benefits Policy

Cost 7p. per fan per year twice, that is if cover is required for matches abroad. As mentioned above, we are in the early stages. Watch this space for further details.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB DRAW

SHEFFIELD UNITED GAME
1st prize — No. 785 2nd prize — No. 932

ENTERTAINMENT IN THE CLUB

Christmas Eve — Trevor Wallace — Tickets 50 pence each

26th December — Blue Lane — 10p. members. 20p. non-members.

New Years Eve - Rod Lane -

New Years Day — Graham Lee Russell — (ex. Pepper)

We would like to wish all our supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, and please keep up your tremendous support.

Call in for a pint after the game,

Chris Coffey, Chairman.

Player scoring bold. † Player substituted. Home fixtures in capitals. Wigan scores first

²Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
*In result column indicates opponents own goal.

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DIVISION LEAGUE as at Sunday, 12th December 1982.

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	Brentford	18	7	1	1	25	10	1	4	4	15	20	29
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	Bradford City	18	6	3	0	22	12	2	2	5	9	15	29
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	Gillingham	18	5	1	3	13	8	3	1	5	9	10	26
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	Wrexham	18	5	2	2	10	7	1	3	5	6	18	23
	Sheffield United	18	4	2	3	12	9	1	3	5	7	15	20
	Reading	19	5	2	2	19	12	0	3	7	14	28	20
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	Preston North End	18	2	5	2	12	10	2	0	7	13	24	17
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	Doncaster	18	2.	6	1	25	21	0	1	8	5	21	13

LOTTERY AGENTS REQUIRED FOR ALL AREAS

GOOD RATES OF COMMISSION AND OTHER INCENTIVES PLEASE CALL AT THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE OR PHONE WIGAN 43067.

Comments from the Chair

GOOD afternoon and a warm welcome to the Directors, players and supporters of Oxford United, a club which has certainly benefited from the guidance and support provided by their Chairman, Mr. Robert Maxwell.

Mr. Maxwell's very welcome involvement with Oxford was partly brought about through that club's dire financial straits, and it is fitting that they should be our visitors on a day when my main theme will be, yet again, finance. For every club that has publicly flown the distress flag recently, there are ten or more who quietly wonder whether they will be next. And make no mistake, Wigan Athletic is not immune from the depression which is hitting League clubs so hard. Every month we fight an uphill battle to balance the books and I and my fellow Directors, along with the Manager and Secretary, are as interested in how big, or small, our gates are, or how many lottery tickets we have sold, as how well the team are performing, because unless financial side of the club is right, we will have no team to worry about.

At the moment we must all be very proud of our youngsters, with "old men" like nineteen-year-old David Glenn and twenty-year-old John Butler leading our skillful and youthful group made up of themselves and Steve Walsh, Phil Williams, David Lowe and Mark Shaw. These are the future of the club and I am sure that you are as proud of them



as I am. But our main aim at the moment is to ensure that they and the young lads following them have a future to play for, and that is why I call upon everyone involved with the club to do their utmost to improve

our financial position.

On the brighter side, I am delighted to record the progress of our injured players who came through this week's Central League match so well. Whilst it is tremendous to have young players in the first team, it is by playing with older players around them that they will learn their trade and I trust we will soon have the mixture of youth and experience that will equip us to climb up the League.

In wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a bright 1983, I can only pay tribute to the great support that you have given us this year. Why it always seems to rain on match days, I do not know, but you have stood and sat in the wind and rain and cheered on the lads like the true football supporters you are. When our finances improve, increased cover is our first priority, but that may be

some time off.

Enjoy the game and have a good

Christmas.

Freddie Pye, Chairman.



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Wednesday, 29th December, 1982 WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- WALSALL Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

"HERE NEXT"

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE



ATHLETIC (Royal Blue & White Stripe WIGAN

- 1 Roy Tunks
- 2 John McMahon
- 3 Alex Cribley
- . 4 Kevin Langley
- 5 Steve Walsh
- 6 Colin Methven
- 7 John Butler
- 8 Mark Shaw
- 9 Peter Houghton
- 10 David Lowe
- 11 Jimmy Weston
- 12 Phil Williams

OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

MR. K.A. REDFERN (Whitley Bay)

match in 1978 and an F.A. Cup Semi-Final in 1980 a player until 1970. Northern League 1972 and Commenced refereeing at University but tended to be land Senior Cup Final in 1976, lined a European Cup Football League in 1973. Refereed the Northumber-

athletics and he is also a director of North Shields with Newcastle United. His hobbies are cricket and is a self-employed jeweller. Football Club. A married man with three children and A former County Schoolboy and Under-18 Amateur

Mr. J.W. Brown (Red Flag)

(Sale)

Mr. T. Curtis (Yellow Flag) (Sheffield

FOR YOUR RECORDS

H.T. SCORE:

F.T. SCORE:

SCORERS ATTENDANCE:

LATICS:

(All Yellow UNITED OXFORD

- 1 John Butcher
- 2 David Linney
- 3 David Fogg
- 4 Ray Train
- 5 Gary Briggs
- 6 Malcolm Shotton
- 7 George Lawrence
- 8 Peter Foley
- 9 Mick Vintner
- 10 Trevor Hebberd
- 11 Tim Smithers
- 12 Kevin Brock